

ABSTRACT

A wireless terminal operates within a Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN) and includes a directional antenna, a radio frequency unit operably coupled to the directional antenna, and a processor operably coupled to the radio frequency unit. The processor controls the operation of the wireless terminal to operate within the WLAN to assist in WLAN service management. In its operations, the wireless terminal listens to a plurality of beacons transmitted by a corresponding plurality of Wireless Access Points (WAPs) of the WLAN. The wireless terminal then characterizes the plurality of beacons with regard to signal quality. Based upon the characterization, the wireless terminal selects a desired WAP of the plurality of WAPs. The wireless terminal then associates with the desired WAP of the plurality of WAPs. Finally, the wireless terminal adjusts a gain vector of a servicing antenna of the wireless terminal so that it is substantially directed toward the desired WAP of the plurality of WAPs.